

VZCZCXRO1560
PP RUEHTRO
DE RUEHNJ #0251 0801614
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
P 211614Z MAR 07
FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
TO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA 1377
RUEHAS/AMEMBASSY ALGIERS 0173
RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS 0006
RUEHKH/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 0421
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1667
RUEHNM/AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 2927
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 2133
RUEHTRO/AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI 0390
RUEHTU/AMEMBASSY TUNIS 0086
RUEHYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1498
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC
RHMFIUU/USEUCOM

S E C R E T NDJAMENA 000251

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/02/2017

TAGS: [MARR](#) [PBTS](#) [PINR](#) [PREL](#) [GR](#) [LI](#) [SU](#) [CD](#)

SUBJECT: AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE IN SUPPORT OF HUMANITARIAN
ASSISTANCE AND PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS -- DARFUR

REF: STATE 30472

Classified By: Ambassador Marc Wall for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

¶1. (C) The Ambassador presented points in ref to Foreign
Minister Allam-mi in a meeting on March 20.

¶2. (S) The Foreign Minister responded that the United
States will require Libya's approval for the request for
overflights even before Chad's. He said Chad prefers to
solve its problems with Sudan through diplomatic means and
has no hostile intentions toward its neighbor. He repeated
the point several times that the proposed overflights could
upset efforts to ease tensions with Sudan and thus could
cause difficulties for Chad. He observed that the
international community is welcome to intervene in Darfur, if
it chooses to, but that Chad does not want to be an
instrument for destabilizing Sudan. He added that Chad
already knows what is happening in Darfur better from the
ground than can be learned from aerial surveillance. He
noted finally that the French are responsible for Chadian
airspace and recalled the bungled mission in July 2005 when a
U.S.-French team landed in Abeche in eastern Chad without the
approval or even awareness of Chadian authorities.

¶3. (C) The Foreign Minister asked to receive the details of
our request in the form of a diplomatic note.

¶4. (C) Comment: The Foreign Minister's comments were not a
definitive rejection of the our request, but they accurately
present the reasons why Chad will be extremely loathe to
agree to it. One point in particular is worth highlighting:
Chad has little interest in being a party to an effort that
could lead to exacerbating its tense relations with Sudan
even further.

¶5. (U) Tripoli minimize considered.

WALL